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Bukowski, Debi/Your baby's hearing



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YOUR BABY'S HEARING

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If your child does not demonstrate the following skills by the approximate time schedule please contact either your family physician or the University of Northern Colorado Audiology Clinic (303) 351-2734

1 MONTH

- will jump or startle in response to loud noises
- will begin to make gurgling sounds

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- Talk to your child the entire time you are around him and caring for him
- put musical toys or mobiles in your child's crib

3 MONTHS

- will make pleasant babbling sounds
- will be aware of voices and music
- may quiet down to familiar voices close to ear
- attempts to turn head in direction of a sound
- stirs or awakens from sleep when there is a loud sound relatively close

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- sing to your child while holding him
- always talk to your child during daily activities together
- imitate your child's sounds immediately
- talk to your baby even when he cannot see you
- provide toys which make sounds or call his attention to different sounds in surroundings

6 MONTHS

- makes vocal sounds when alone
- turns head toward sounds out of sight or when name is called and speaker is not visible
- vocalizes when spoken to directly

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- repeat the vocal sounds your child makes
- allow your child to play with noisy toys and rattles
- call child's name and see if he turns in your direction
- talk to child during all activities together
- play baby games with your child ("Peak-a-boo", "Patty-cake")
- respond whenever your child initiates "a conversation"

9 MONTHS

- responds differently to a cheerful or angry voice
- turns head toward sounds out of sight or when name is called and speaker is not visible
- pitch of voice changes
- tries to copy the speech sounds of others

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- play singing games, finger games and rhymes with your child
- describe all activities going on around your child
- respond when your child vocalizes -- talk with your child
- give your child simple speech sounds to see if he will copy you
- make different sounds around the room and see if your child can locate them

12 MONTHS

- can locate a sound source by turning his head (whether the sound is at the side, above, or below ear level)
- ceases activity when parent's voice is heard
- recognizes own name
- uses single words correctly
- vocalizations reflect emotions
- laughs spontaneously
- sleeping disturbed by nearby noises
- attempts imitation of sounds and words
- understands some familiar phrases or words
- responds to music or singing
- babbling increases in type and amount

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- play music
- talk often to child about objects in his environment including objects pictured in storybooks
- provide concentrated listening experiences
- reinforce your child's every attempt to imitate your language
- play games which encourage vocalization by your child

24 MONTHS

- has more than fifty words in vocabulary
- putting two words together
- responds to rhythm of music
- uses voice for a specific purpose
- shows understanding of many phrases used daily in his life
- plays with sound making objects
- uses well inflected vocalizations
- refers to himself by name

ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS

- elaborate on what your child says
- require verbal responses for most questions
- give child simple directions and see if he can follow them
- let your child examine objects which make sounds such as a doorbell, alarm clocks, pots and pans, or measuring spoons